



VANU INC

JTRS Portability Workshop  
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## Radio Description Language

Dr. John M Chapin  
Vanu, Inc.  
1 Porter Square Suite 18, Cambridge MA 02140  
jchapin@vanu.com  
617-864-1711



# RDL project

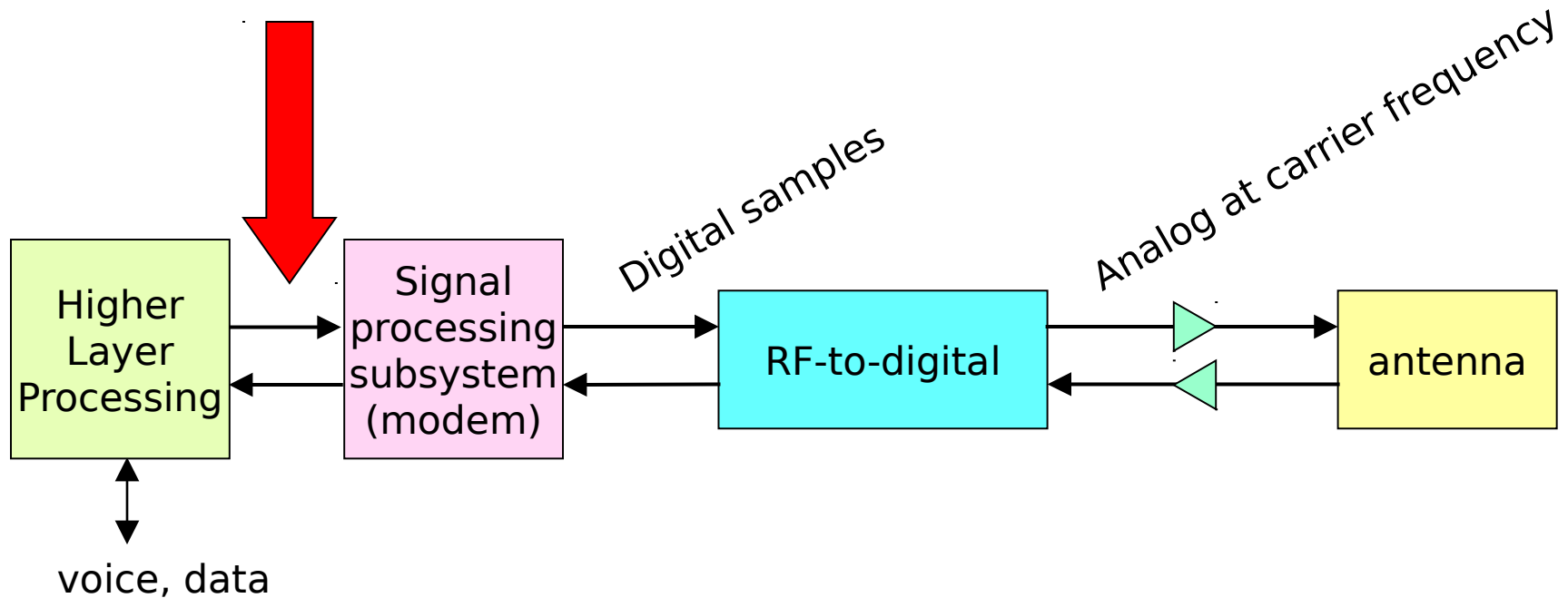
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- RDL developed 2000-2002 to support multichannel basestations
  - Used for Vanu, Inc. GSM basestation
- Supported 2002-2004 by JTRS JPO
  - Included beta test by external users



# Radio Description Language

- An evolution of the SCA modem API
- Improves this interface to make higher layer code more portable





# Radio Description Language

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- Vanu, Inc. RDL is a language for
  - describing the desired signal processing functions
  - giving parameters for each processing stage
- Modem API shrinks to 1 function:  
**loadRDL(RdlDescription d);**
- An RDL description
  - is used to configure and control a flexible modem
  - is NOT a language for implementing signal processing
  - is NOT a waveform specification



# A language is better than a functional API

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## 1. Reduce code size for large-scale systems

1000s of things to control in the signal processing subsystem

## 2. Simplify code for dynamic, complex waveforms

1000s of modes, dynamically changing processing

## 3. Improve portability across different SPS hardware types

host code operations change significantly with type



# Other alternatives to functional API

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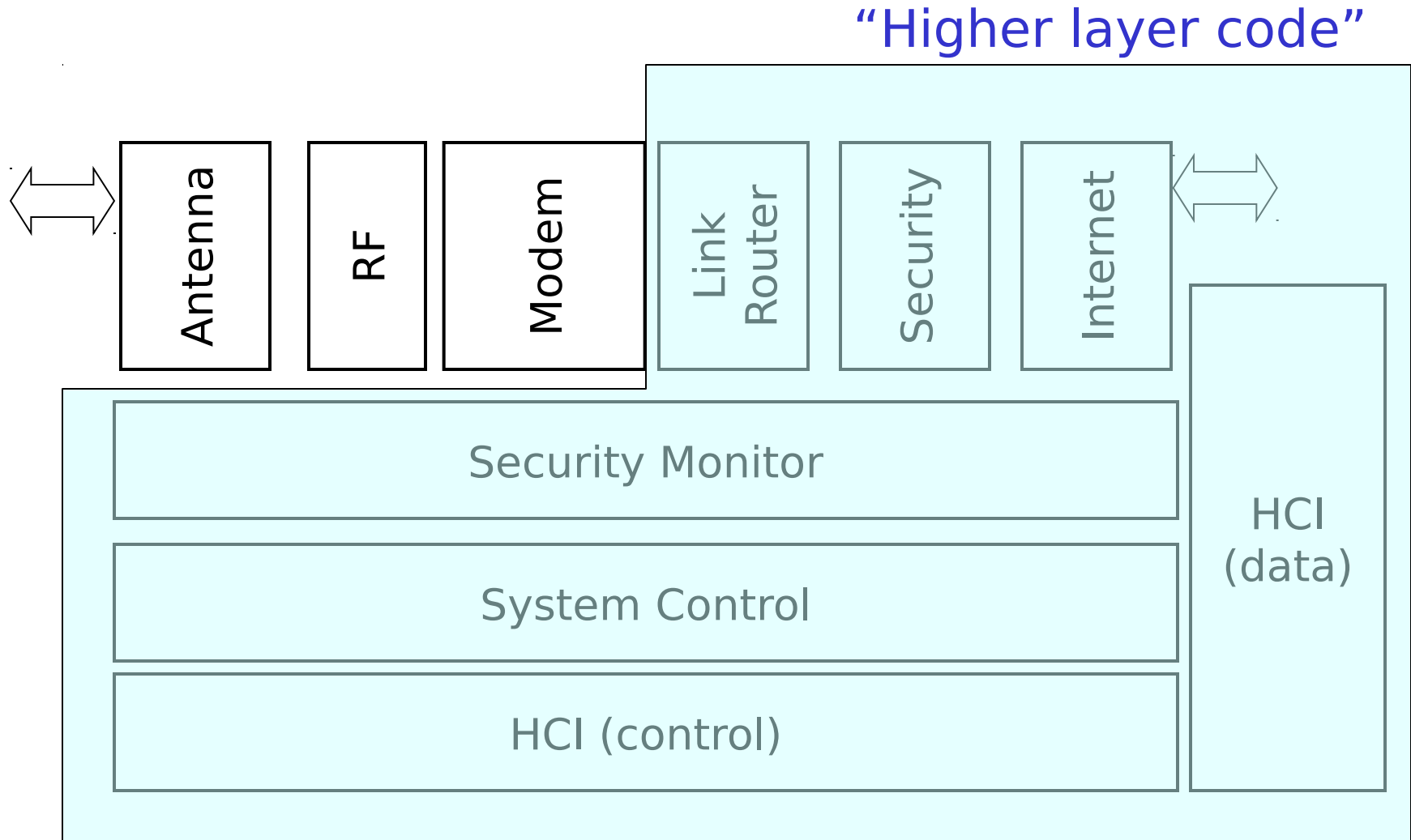
- XML
  - XML generator needed for repetition and hierarchy
  - RDL expresses this directly
- Objects on the GPP
  - a model of the signal processing graph
  - can use CORBA interconnect
  - potential challenge for dynamic graph changes
  - higher memory footprint
- Either XML or Objects could be effective



# Backup Slides



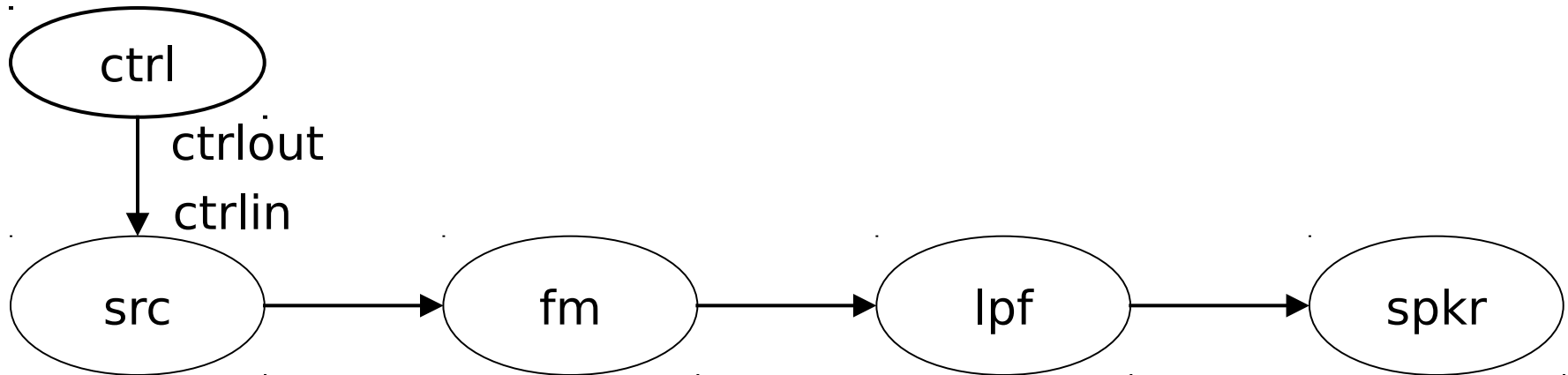
# SCA software reference model







# Host waveform code to configure SPS for FM



```
srcconfig x;  
x.freq = 91.50;  
x.width = 0.2;  
x.multi = FALSE;  
x.rate = 500;  
config_src(&x);  
if (x.error) {  
    /* report */  
}
```

```
fmconfig f;  
f.width = 0.1;  
f.sigmax = 256;  
config_fm(&f);  
if (f.error) {  
    /* report */  
}
```

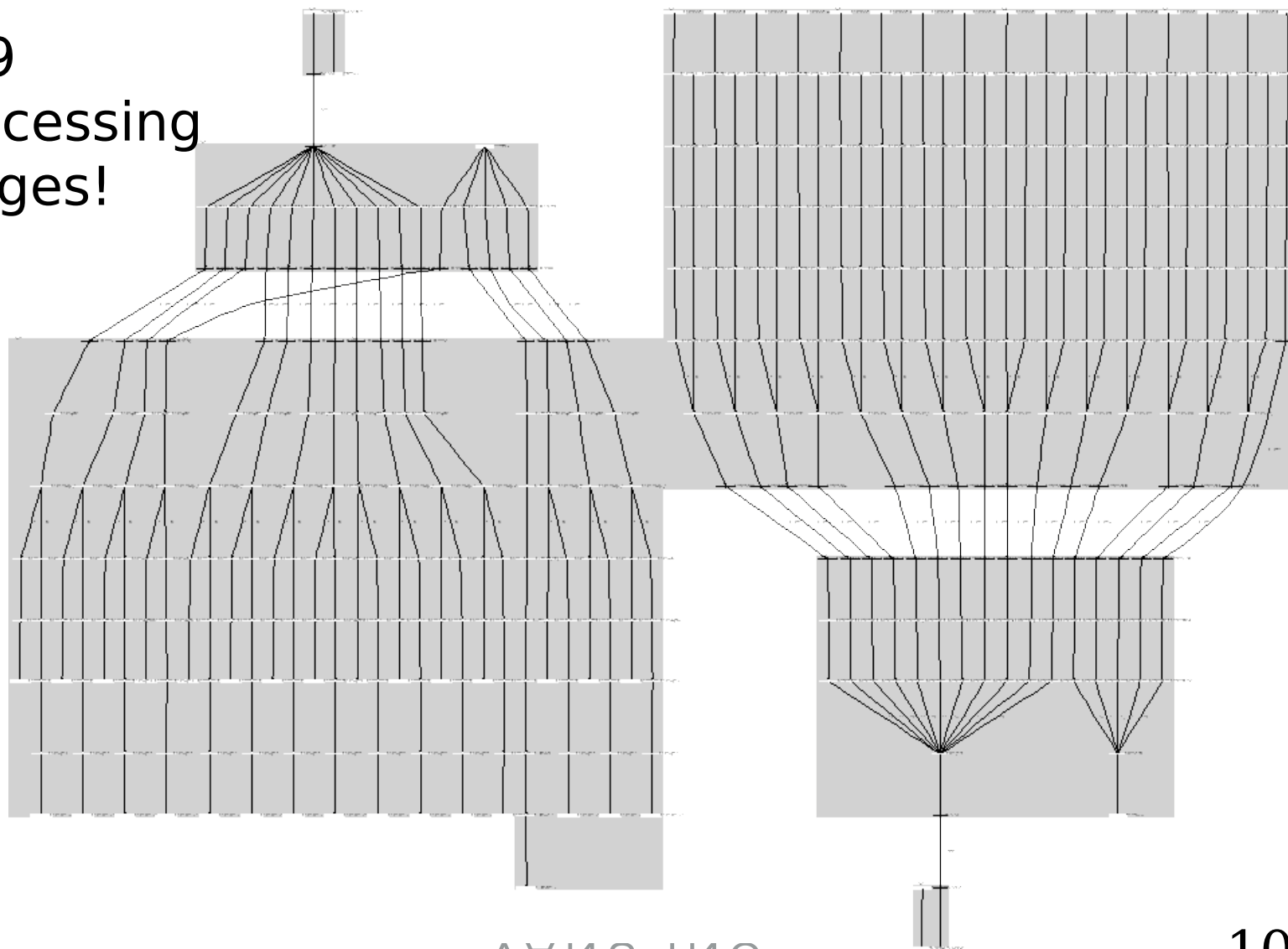
```
lpfconfig l;    spkrconfig s;  
l.passband = 32; s.volume = 5;  
l.stopband = 36; config_spkr(&s);  
l.passtol = 0.2; if (s.error) {  
    l.stoptol = 0.1; /* report */  
    config_lpf(&l); }  
if (l.error) {  
    /* report */  
}
```

(code shown is notional)



# Sigproc for 16-channel AMPS basestation

469  
processing  
stages!

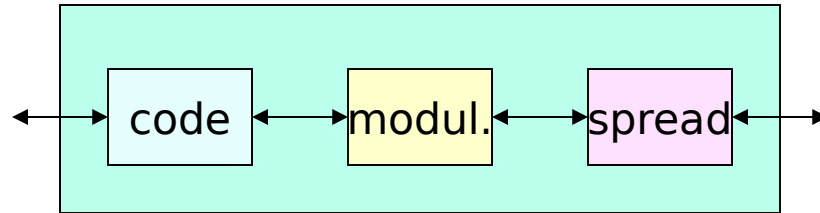




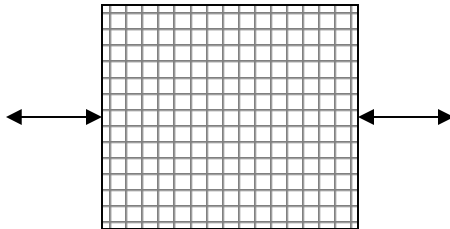
(code shown is notional)



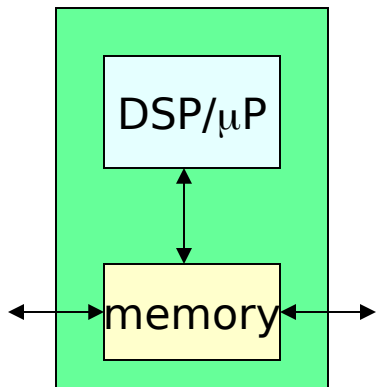
# Different types of SPS hardware



hardware modem  
fixed pipeline



FPGA  
waveforms must share circuit



Processor  
operations performed by  
instructions



# Configuring different kinds of SPS hardware

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SPS type	on startup	on mode change
Hardware modem	no action	set parameters
FPGA	select map download map	set parameters rewire map
Processor	create objects connect objects	set parameters rewire objects create/delete objects

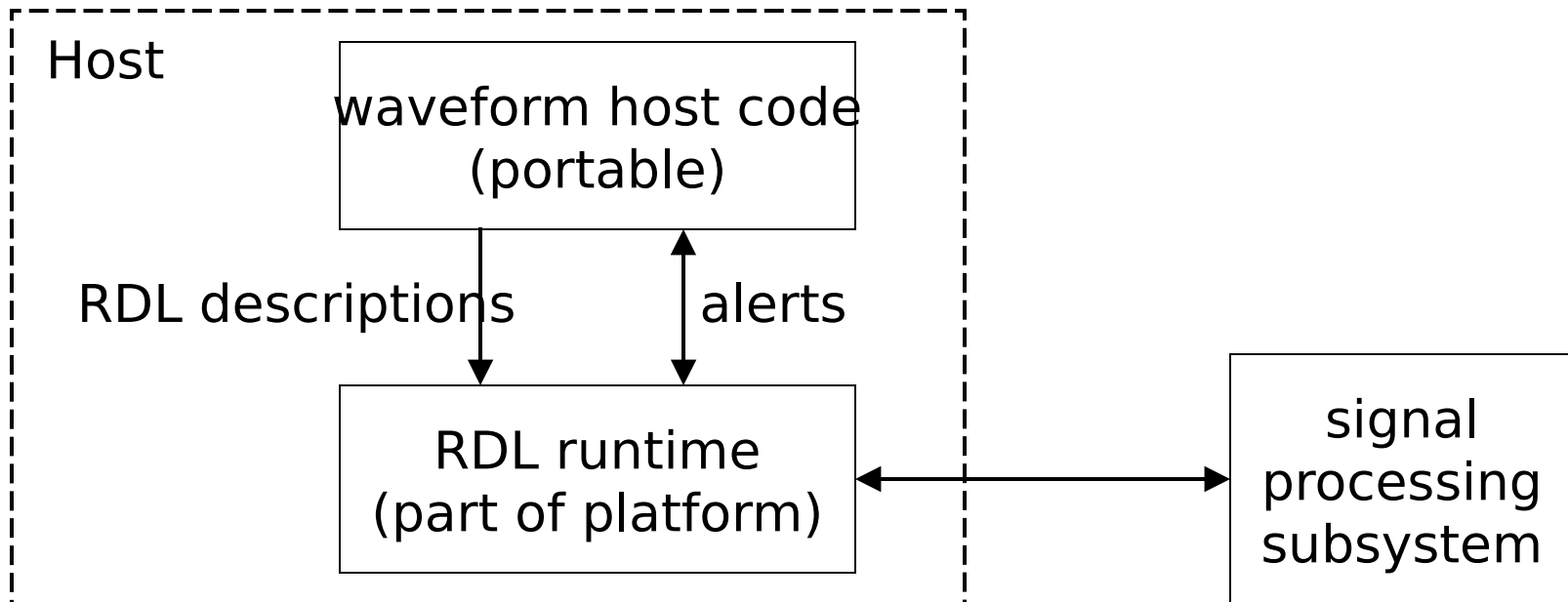
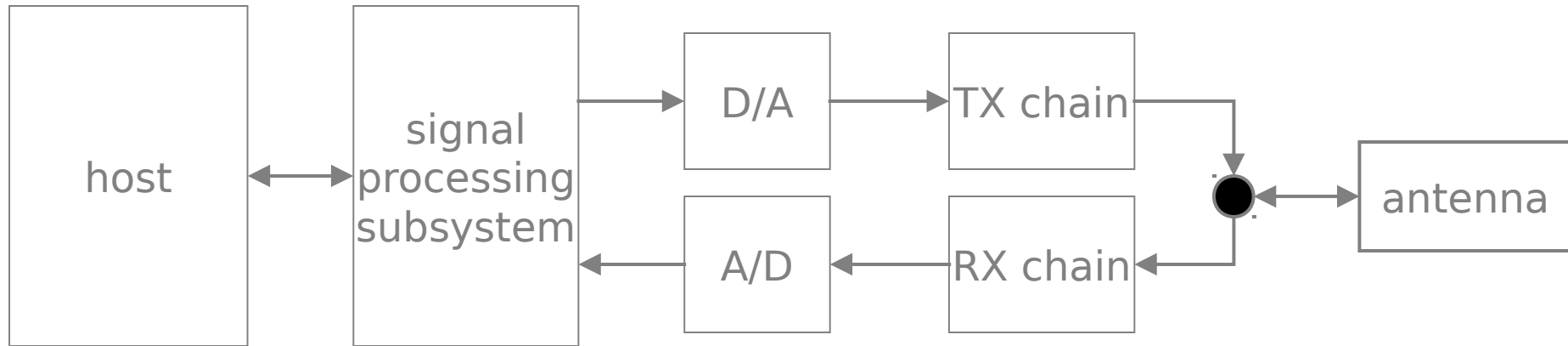
- Different operations required for different SPS types
- No matter how good the modem API is:
  - significant host code changes during porting
  - creates high porting costs



# System architecture



# RDL role in SDR system





# RDL concepts: Description

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- Description

- an RDL file that says what signal processing work to do

```
assembly FmRadio
{
  module IntegratedRfSource  src;
  module RfController        ctrl;
  module FmDemod              fm;
  module LowPassFilter        lpf;
  module OssDspSink           spkr;

  src -> fm -> lpf -> spkr;

  ctrl.ctrlout -> src.ctrlin;
}
```





# RDL concepts: RDL runtime

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- RDL runtime
  - the software components that link the host code to the SPS
- functions
  - configure the SPS as required by RDL descriptions
  - control and monitor the SPS during operation
  - communicate to/from the host code using **alerts**
    - like an API, except bidirectional